

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/141,318

Applicant(s)

ISOMURA, HIROSHI

Examiner

Art Unit

George Eng

2643

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/17/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-9,12-17,20-24,27-31 and 34-38.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 27 August 1998 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
**GEORGE ENG**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

## **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

### ***Examiner's Amendment***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gene M. Garner II (Reg. No. 34,172) on 2/17/2005.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Delete claim 39.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic mail managing apparatus according to Claim 9 further comprising:

a process specifying unit for specifying, for each [terminal] electronic device, how the electronic mail transmitted to the electronic device should be processed.

### ***Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance***

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's invention is drawn to a telephone set having electronic mail management function to efficiently manage an electronic mail without imposing load on a provider server by showing the state of an electronic mail download through an accessing means to a mail server on

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each of plural terminal devices and transmitting the electronic mail stored in a mail storing means of the telephone to one of the plural terminal devices (i.e., a telephone set capable of connecting with at least a mail server and a plurality of terminal devices owned by one person, wherein the telephone set comprises an access unit for accessing to the mail server, a mail memory for storing an electronic mail downloaded from the mail server, a mail status memory for storing each status of the electronic mail stored in the mail memory unit and a transmission unit for transmitting the electronic mail stored in the mail memory to one of the terminal devices based on the state of the electronic mail corresponding to each of the terminal devices).

Applicant's independent claims 1, 9 and 31 each recite, *inter alia*, a telephone with an electronic mail managing function with a structure as defined in the specification (pages 11-22) including a mail memory storing an electronic mail which is sent to a user to be accessed via at least one of the plurality of electronic devices and downloaded from the mail server through the access unit, a mail status memory storing each state of the electronic mail stored in the mail memory so as to correspond to each of the electronic devices, wherein each state stored in said mail status memory indicates whether or not the electronic mail is down-loaded and to which of the electronic devices from the telephone, and a transmission unit transmitting the electronic mail stored in the mail memory to one of the plurality of electronic devices, wherein the electronic mail managing function is provided logically between the mail server and the plurality of electronic devices, and wherein the electronic mail managing function integratedly manages the electronic mail based on the state of the electronic mail corresponding to each of the electronic devices. Applicant's independent claims 1, 9 and 31 comprise a particular combination of element, which is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Applicant's independent method claims 7, 8, 17 and 24 each recite, *inter alia*, a reading process of reading mail which is sent to a user to be accessed via at least one of the plurality of electronic devices and stored in the mail server, a storing process of storing the mail read in the reading process, displaying or storing a state of the mail stored in the storing process for each of the electronic devices, wherein said state includes whether or not the electronic mail is downloaded and to which of the electronic devices from a telephone, and a transmission process of transmitting the mail stored in the storing process to one of the electronic devices, wherein the mail managing apparatus is provided logically between the mail server and the plurality of electronic devices, and wherein the mail managing method integrately manages the mail based on a state of the mail corresponding to each of the electronic devices. These steps, in combination of the remaining steps, are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

Accordingly, Applicant's claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited by Applicant in Amendments filed 5/30/2000, 1/16/2001, 10/9/2001, 5/3/2002, 3/28/2003, 3/23/2004 and 9/17/2004.

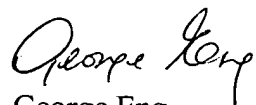
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George Eng whose telephone number is 703-308-9555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue-Fri 7:30 AM-6:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis A. Kuntz can be reached on 703-305-4708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
George Eng  
Primary Examiner  
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